

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

January 23, 2023

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

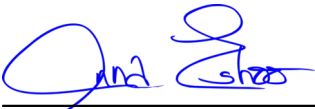
We write in support of extending disaster relief to San Mateo County as part of the Major Disaster Declaration for the severe winter storms, flooding, and landslides across California in recent weeks. We appreciate the resources that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has already provided to address the storm and urge you to ensure that all affected communities across our state benefit from this critical federal support.

While San Mateo County is still investigating the full scope of the damage, it is facing an estimated \$17 to \$20 million in costs from the storm. Significant damage occurred in rural and underserved areas along the Pacific Coast, with much of the impact falling on the County's most vulnerable residents, including farmworkers, mobile home park residents, and those living in remote areas. Over 177 buildings in the County's cities and towns have reported damage, including private residences, businesses, nonprofits, roadways, parks and other infrastructure. In unincorporated areas of the County, several local government facilities have been impacted including a county fire station that has been rendered uninhabitable and a county mental health facility that is inundated but remains operational. There has also been significant damage to private homes on the Coastside and in unincorporated Belmont where water quickly rose more than five feet.

As the County continues to assess the full impact of the storms on businesses, private residences, and local infrastructure, the scope of the damage will surely increase. Regardless, it is clear that San Mateo County and its residents require federal support as quickly as possible. Extending the existing disaster declaration to San Mateo County will ensure our constituents can access direct relief from FEMA through its Individual Assistance program as they face flooding, power outages, and other damage to their property.

We so appreciate your recent visit to personally survey the damage in Northern California and stand ready to assist you in ensuring that all affected counties in our state receive the federal assistance necessary to recover from this disaster. Thank you for your prompt attention to our urgent request.

Most gratefully,



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress



Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress